

*Harris county.*—Ashbel Smith, Cedar Bayou, Harris county, Texas, born in 1806; graduated at Yale College, in 1824; commenced the study of medicine in North Carolina, afterwards in Paris, France; practiced in North Carolina; emigrated to Texas in the winter of 1836-7; appointed surgeon-general of Texas army, June, 1837, under the old Republic of Texas; was one of the commissioners who negotiated the treaty with the Comanches, in 1838; was aid to General Houston; Minister of the Republic of Texas to England and France; Secretary of State under President Anson Jones; in 1845, signed the treaty on behalf of Texas with Don Luis G. Cuevas, Secretary of State, on behalf of Mexico, which, being ratified by the Mexican Congress, peace with Mexico, with recognition of Texan independence, was obtained; was in the Confederate army from the commencement of the civil war until its close; was in the battles of Shiloh, Fort Pemberton, siege of Vicksburg, and numerous others; was in command of the forces constituting the district of the defense of Galveston when the civil war closed; has been three times elected a member of the House of Representatives; is a member of various American and foreign learned and scientific societies;—in France of the National Society of Geography, and of the National Society of Agriculture. etc.; elected to the House November, 1878, as a Democrat.